

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of cooling strip or wire products in which, subsequent to being annealed, the product is cooled to a temperature of about 20 - 50°C below its oxidation temperature. The product is wound around a drum immediately downstream of an annealing path so that the product lies in mutually juxtaposed turns on the drum. It is thereafter unwound from the drum after a number of turns. The number of turns is such that the product is cooled to a desired temperature. The drum has a diameter that exceeds the diameter at which the product will be influenced mechanically by plastic deformation.